

THE RICHMOND DISPATCH—FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1886.

WASHINGTON.

THE WORK OF CONGRESS BEFORE THE HOLIDAYS.

A Good Record—Congressman Reid's Success—What Some of Reid's Friends Think—Personal Notes and Briefs.

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)

WASHINGTON, December 23.—The press session has been a very tame one. A large number of important measures have passed through necessary stages of preparation, in the way of passing appropriation bills, and the session seems to be following the course which it was in the previous two weeks before the Christmas recess. In the Forty-sixth Congress, seven of these annual measures had been sent through the House before the recess; in the Forty-seventh, even in the Forty-eighth, there were no important measures.

In general, however, the Forty-ninth is about as its predecessors.

J. M. Brewster, elected by the Republicans to succeed John J. W. Reid, of North Carolina, has introduced a bill to exempt from the penalty for moonlighting the men in the employ of the government from the mercy of the court or the prosecuting officer. About two years ago he was arrested, tried, convicted, and sentenced to the Federal penitentiary at Greenville, South Carolina. Judge John W. Reid, who was succeeded during Brewster's term, the Democratic swain is now suspended over the head of the members, and may fall at any moment.

Some of the friends of Mr. Reid express the hope that he will be allowed to introduce his motion, but most of them say that that is a foolish hope, and that there is not one chance in a thousand for him.

The following members of the Virginia delegation are in Washington: Messrs. Harlan, and Mr. Tucker returned from Norfolk and Richmond last night. He goes to Winchester for his holiday today. He is in fine spirits over the result of the debt cases tried in the Circuit Court, and which were decided in his favor.

He was of counsel for the State of Virginia.

Mr. Hendon has gone to Baltimore for treatment of his eye-sight, which is much improved.

Mr. Bennett and Green, of North Carolina, remain in the city.

Mr. Johnson of North Carolina will pass the holidays with his relatives, and his relatives at Spartanburg, and his wife and daughters still here.

Mr. Wilson, of West Virginia, has a very sick child. He will pass the holidays here.

Of the leading congressmen from other States, Messrs. Cushing, Morrison, Kinney, and Tillman, Tipton, Reed of Maine, and many others will stay in the city until Christmas.

Most of the southern members who live near enough will spend the Christmas at home. Messrs. Cabell and Tracy will be in the Middle West this month. Judge Bennett of North Carolina, will pass the holidays here.

A party of ladies and gentlemen from Europe stopped here yesterday. Among them were the Misses Rivers.

Mrs. James E. Alexander of Leesburg, is here.

Mr. J. T. Bassett, of Virginia, and Mr. H. M. Davison, of Amherst, are here.

Moscow Notes.

(By telegraph to the Dispatch.)

Washington, December 23.—The Capitol building was almost desolate today. Two or three Senators and half a dozen Representatives dropped in to attend to personal correspondence, and the sub-committee of the House Committee on Naval Affairs spent two hours in their office.

The members of the Senate and House were engaged in personal work, and their offices were quiet.

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